

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/237,016

Applicant(s)

WATTS ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Jenise E. Jackson

2131

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/28/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3,5-8,10-13,15-36 and 40-42.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

CHRISTOPHER REVAK
PRIMARY EXAMINER

cel 4/29/06

Reasons For Allowance

1. ***Status of Claims:*** Claims 4, 9, 14, 37-39 were cancelled by the Applicant. Claims 1-3, 5-8, 10-13, 15-36, 40-42 are allowable for the features listed below:
2. Angelo discloses a computer system that utilizes a two-piece authentication procedure to enable access to secured computer resources. The password verification process of Angelo is carried out during a secure power-up procedure. The computer checks for the presence of an external token or smart card, following the detection of the token, the computer user is required to enter a password. Once the password is entered, than the password is encrypted and a peripheral password is created, the peripheral password is compared to a value stored in either secure system memory or in the memory contained within a secured resource. If the two values match, access to the secured resource is permitted. The encrypted algorithm is stored on the token the password themselves are not stored on the token. Angelo also discloses security policies, because Angelo teaches varying levels of access within a computer system, with each level of access requiring a different password. However, Angelo fails to disclose or suggest, the passwords being integrated within a set of security policies such that alteration of the security policies renders the access code and password inoperative, the security policies including at least one security policy selected from the group consisting of policies relating to BIOS settings and policies relating to screen interface access. Angelo discloses that there are different passwords required to access different features or memory spaces of a secured resource.
3. Lambert discloses a data processing system for controlling user access to data or services, wherein data or application modules for providing the service are stored in a form, which is inaccessible without an access key. Users are each allocated a specific user key, which is

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appropriate for their level of access authority. When a user requests access to stored data or requests a service for which stored software modules must be accessed, the data or modules are interrogated to identify their stored security access level. If the user key represents the required level of access authority an access key is generated from the user key for accessing that data or service. However, this is in contrast to the claims, that claim, passwords being integrated within a set of security policies such that alteration of the security policies renders the access code and password inoperative, the security policies including at least one security policy selected from the group consisting of policies relating to BIOS settings and policies relating to screen interface access.

4. Schafer discloses protecting data stored on a disk used with a computer, and a password is also registered and stored during installation. The installed boot patch interacts with and is responsive to the stored code provided by the key device. Once the patch is installed, when the computer boots up, a correct key must be inserted into the key connector. If the correct stored code is provided to the boot program, access to the computer's disk is provided. Without the access code stored on the key device and proper password, the contents of the disk are unreadable. This is in contrast to claims, that claim, passwords being integrated within a set of security policies such that alteration of the security policies renders the access code and password inoperative, the security policies including at least one security policy selected from the group consisting of policies relating to BIOS settings and policies relating to screen interface access. Schafer is silent on security policies. Schafer discloses that the boot patch installs hard disk partition encryption encoding software into the disk BIOS routine and is used at all times during operation of the computer to transparently encode and decode the data on the hard or

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floppy disk. Without the access code stored on the key device and proper password, the contents of the hard or floppy disk is unreadable.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jenise E. Jackson whose telephone number is (571) 272-3791. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th (6:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.) alternate Friday's.

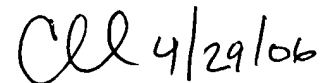
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



April 19, 2006

CHRISTOPHER REVAK
PRIMARY EXAMINER



4/29/06